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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/728,905	12/08/2003	Shigeo Nanno	032080	9322

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EXAMINER

CRENSHAW, MARVIN P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2854

DATE MAILED: 09/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/728,905

Applicant(s)

NANNO, SHIGEO

Examiner

Marvin P. Crenshaw

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on the amendment filed on 6/23/2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 - 25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 - 6, 12, 13, 16 - 19, 24 and 25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 7 - 11, 14, 15 and 20 - 23 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08 December 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152..

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 7 – 11, 14, 15 and 20 – 23 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With respect to claim 7, the prior art does not teach or render obvious the total combination as claimed including a duplex image forming device wherein the reversible transportation unit includes a main body frame having a contacting surface that contacts against a side of the image forming device and a motor which drives the means for transporting and is disposed protruding outward from the contacting surface of the main body frame so that at least a part of the motor is disposed in the image forming device when the reversible transportation unit is inserted into the image forming device.

With respect to claim 10, the prior art does not teach or render obvious the total combination as claimed including a duplex image forming device wherein the reversible transportation unit includes a gear mechanism which transfers a drive from the motor and a supporting plate which attaches the motor and the gear mechanism.

With respect to claim 20, the prior art does not teach or render obvious the total combination as claimed including a reversible transportation unit further comprising a main body frame which has a contacting surface that contacts against a side of the image forming device and a motor which drives the means for transporting and is disposed protruding from the contacting surface of the main body frame so that at least

a part of the motor is disposed in the image forming device when the reversible transportation unit is inserted into the image forming device.

With respect to claim 22, the prior art does not teach or render obvious the total combination as claimed including a reversible transportation unit further comprising a gear mechanism which transfers a drive from the motor and a supporting plate which attaches the motor and the gear mechanism

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1 – 6, 12, 13, 16 – 19, 24 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by JP-116591.

With respect to claim 1, JP-116591 teaches a duplex image forming device (Fig. 1) comprising an image forming device (19) which includes a paper transportation path (2), a paper feed unit (15) which transports a paper to the paper transportation path, a printing unit (9) which prints an image onto the paper (P), a discharge tray (25) where the paper printed with the image is discharged, a manual paper feed tray (17) which is

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attached to a side of the image forming device, and a storage opening (The space located above 43) which is provided at a side of the image forming device and stores the manual paper feed tray (17) and a reversible transportation (26) unit which is inserted to a side of the image forming device to cover an upper part of the storage opening, and includes a reversible transportation path (20) that is formed to pass through the storage opening for transporting out to an upstream side of the printing unit, the paper transported from a downstream side of the printing unit in the paper transportation path.

With respect to claim 2, JP – 116591 teaches a duplex image forming device (Fig. 1) wherein the reversible transportation unit (26) further includes a plurality of means (27, 28 and 29) for transporting that are disposed along the reversible transportation path and a part of at least one of the means (29) for transporting is disposed the storage opening.

With respect to claim 3, JP – 116591 teaches a duplex image forming device (Fig. 1) wherein the means for transporting are transportation rollers (27, 28 and 29).

With respect to claim 4, JP – 116591 teaches a duplex image forming device (Fig. 1) wherein the paper transportation path (20) is formed from the paper feed unit upward in a vertical direction and connected to the discharge tray (Fig. 1).

With respect to claim 5, JP – 116591 teaches a duplex image forming device (Fig. 1) wherein the manual paper feed tray (17) swings (See Fig. 2) between a closed position disposed at the storage opening and an opened position disposed away from the storage opening.

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With respect to claim 6, JP – 116591 teaches a duplex image forming device (Fig. 1) wherein an upper part and a lower part (See Fig. 1) of the reversible transportation path are slanted, and the means (27 and 29) for transporting are disposed at the slanting paths respectively.

With respect to claim 12, JP – 116591 teaches a duplex image forming device (Fig. 1) wherein a storage unit which stores the manual paper feed tray (17) is formed on the main body frame of the reversible transportation unit.

With respect to claim 13, JP – 116591 teaches a duplex image forming device (Fig. 1) wherein the image forming device further comprising means for holding the manual paper feed tray (17) under a state stored in the storage unit.

With respect to claim 16, JP – 116591 teaches a reversible transportation unit (26) inserted into an image forming device (Fig. 1), comprising a reversible transportation path (20) which transports out an upstream side of a printing unit, a paper (P) transported from a downstream side of the printing unit in a paper transportation path of the image forming device wherein the reversible transportation path (20) is formed to pass through a storage opening (The space just above 43) which stores a manual paper feed tray attached to the image forming device.

With respect to claim 17, JP – 116591 teaches a reversible transportation unit (26) further comprising a plurality of means (27, 28 and 29) for transporting that are disposed along the reversible transportation path, and a part of at least one of the means for transporting is disposed in the storage opening.

With respect to claim 18, JP – 116591 teaches a reversible transportation unit (26) wherein the means for transporting are transporting rollers (27, 28 and 29).

With respect to claim 19, JP – 116591 teaches a reversible transportation unit (26) wherein an upper part and a lower part (Fig. 1) of the reversible transportation path (20) are slanting and the means for transporting are disposed at the slanting path respectively.

With respect to claim 24, JP – 116591 teaches a reversible transportation unit (26) wherein a storage unit (the space where the reversible transportation unit fits) is formed on the main body frame for storing the manual paper feed tray.

With respect to claim 25, JP – 116591 teaches a reversible transportation unit (26) further comprising means for supporting the manual paper feed tray (17) under a stored state in the storage unit.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 - 25 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Specifically, JP – 116591 has been added to teach an image forming device with a reversible transportation unit.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marvin P. Crenshaw whose telephone number is (571) 272-2158. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 7:00 - 5:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Judy Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-2258. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



MPC

September 18, 2006



JUDY NGUYEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER